

The anly vere of the
States Generall of the v-
nited Prouinces of the low countries
vnto the Ambassadors of Germanie,
their proposition.



L O N D O N

Printed by Iohn Wolfe, and are to bee sold at his
shop ouer against the great South dore
of Saint Paule. 1598.

The only way of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the

great & terrible of the



The Answer of the States Generall vnto the Ambassadors of Germanie, their proposition.

THe States Generall of the vnited Provinces of the low Countries hauing heard and vnderstood that, which in their assembly from the high and renowned Princes Electors, together with the other Princes, and right honorable Estate of the Circuit Electorall, and chiefe of the Rhyne beyond the low Countries of Westphale and low Saxen, hath bene propounded vnto them as well by word of mouth as wyting, and letters of commission, presented & read the 20. of August, by the right honorable learned and wise Gasper of Elty gouerneur of Langstein.

Adam Gans Lord of Putlitz, and the Counsellors of the Princes Electors of Mayance and Palatin.

Otto de VVolmernerckhuysen Lieutenant generall of the circle beyond the Rhyn.

VVeynant de Lerorodt, maister Chamberlaine of the countrie of Iulliers, and gouernor of Randerodt.

Iehan Bouman and Bernard van Putz Doctors of the Law, and Ambassadors of the said circuits.

The said States generall after a ripe deliberation vpon the articles propounded vnto them, first highly thanke the Princes Electors, and the other Princes; Lordes and States for their gentle and bountifull offer and be-

nuolence, as also for their gracions and fauorable token
 of amitie: And pray their Excellences Electors with
 the other Princes, Lordes and States to perswade them-
 selues that they of their side haue omitted and shall omitte
 no diligence, care and endeuor, that as wel the said Prin-
 ces Electors, with the rest of the States of the sacred Em-
 pire, as all other Potentats, Kings, Princes, and Com-
 monweales may manifestly perceiue (notwithstanding
 these long during and troulesome warres, whereof the
 low Countries, to their great damage and hinderance,
 haue bene forced to abide the first brunts and most feare-
 full assaults) that the naturall bountie and plaine Sincer-
 itie of the inhabitants of the said Prouinces doth yet re-
 maine entire and inuiolated: insomuch that (after the pre-
 seruation of their owne countrie) nothing is moze dearer
 vnto them, or that they haue in greater commendation
 then to keepe a league, amitie, and correspondencie with
 all the world, but chiefly with their neighbors and coun-
 tries lying round about them, but especially to preserve
 the most happie and long desired peace and vnitie be-
 twene themselves: Wherefore the saide States generall
 maruaile greatly to heare and vnderstand that they are
 accused to haue broken and violated the league of vnitie
 y^e was betwixen the said Countries, chiefly by those from
 whom they looked alwaies for all ayde and assistance, and
 for a sympathie of grieue at their great diastre in generall
 befallen vpon the low countries, who at this present haue to
 quench such a violent and flaming fire, that it is impossi-
 ble the sparkes thereof fly not among the houses & dwel-
 ling places of their neighbors. And truely it is but lost la-
 bor to endeuor to quench this flame, seeing that in the hart
 and midst of the countrie (which is strickly vnited vnto
 the other their neighbors) nothing is moze practised then
 a maintaining and nourishing of it. If it be not perad-
 venture that they thinke it to be possible to preserve the
 externall parts and members, after the heart is burdened
 and consumed : Which the said States cannot well be-
 lieue.

leene by their neighbours.

And therefore (ſeing that with a true plaine and ſincere conſcience they can appeale befoze God, that they are greatly diſpleaſed and hartely grieued foꝝ the loſſes and dommagés of their neighbours) much leſſe to haue giuen any occaſion of due complaint, permitted oꝝ graunted, oꝝ elſe would yet graunt oꝝ permit to their ſouldiours and men of warre, that their neighbour countries and the inhabitants thereof ſhould be endommaged oꝝ ruinated any waies by them. And that their intention hath bene alwaies ſuch, the commiſſions, reſolutions, placarts and ordonances enacted and publiſhed to that effect by them, with the puniſhments thereunto annexed, and moſt ſeuereſy executed, can yet ſufficiently witneſſe and teſtifie. Inſomuch that at leaſt it is to be ſeene thereby, that the fault was not in the good will and meaning of the ſaide States generall.

But it may be that they oꝝ thoſe of the counſell of Eſtate haue not bene alwaies able to keepe ſo good an order and diſcipline as was well required: which order came to paſſe partly by the enimies ſubtill and politticke practiſes, and partly alſo that in a great companie and troupe of diſordered and diſſolute ſouldiours it is no eaſy matter to keepe alwaies a good order and diſcipline. Which exceſſe of theirs græueth the States farre moze, then it can do any other, becauſe foꝝ the moſt part it turned to their greater damage and intereſt. But in the meane while they haue rather ſuffered thoſe diſorders patiently foꝝ a time and certaine ſeaſon, with a hope alwaies to ſee ere long ſome amendment, then to pull ouer their heads and procure a farre greater euill without compariſon. Namely that (to the totall ruine and utter diſtruction of theſe Provinces, and conſequently to the damage and intereſt of their neighbours) they ſhould ſee themſelues forced to bend their neckes vnder the yoke of an inſatiable, bloudie, cruell, abſolute, ſoyraine and ſlauiſh government and obedience.

Under the iurisdiction of a people that hath bene scene under the vale and coulour of Ecclesiasticall gouernment, bloody placarts (so farre that they euen forbade the reading of the Scripture) and proceedings by inquisition in courtes befo^r Judges, the like whereof was neuer hard o^r scene in these countries, to haue sought nothing else, then (against their oth and promises so solemnly confirmed and sworn) to violate and treade most wickedlye vnder their feete the liberties, lawes, and priuileges of these Prouinces, change all their Estate, murther and exterminate all the chiefe Lordes and Nobilitie thereof, charge the Commonaltie with an intollerable and most heauie burden of exactions, imposts, and subsidies. And by these meanes to introduce and establish in the said Prouinces an absolute gouernment, to come thereby the moze easier to their loag pretended vniuersall monarchie.

And that their intention was neuer but such, it appeareth manifestly by the inco^rpozation and surprising of the richest Abbeys and Monasteries of these Prouinces. Fo^r the Prelats and Ecclesiasticall men representing in the greater part of the Countrie, the first member of Estate: was to be abolished and first rooted out, that in their most honozable places should be intruded & put in a new kind of people: Namely the maisters inquisito^rs of Hereticks, bearing the name of Bishops, all creatures of this new pretended monarchie. And that these maisters Inquisito^rs fo^r Heretickes o^r Bishops newly forged, might re- mayne established in their newe authoritie, they serued the Spaniards in these Prouinces fo^r nothing else but fo^r spies, obseruing and taking a nere regard to those that went about to oppose themselves against this new absolute gouernment: that they might also by these meanes attach the second member of Estate of these countries, namely the Lordes and Nobilitie thereof. Whom partly they haue caused miserably and shamefully to be executed, and partly disarmed of all their weapons, their hands excepted. Fo^r the effecting whereof they thought to haue
mat-

matter enough, seeing that intreating onely for innocent blood, which they were desirous to spill, was censured and holden by them, *Crimen læsæ Maiestatis Divinæ & Humanæ*, an acte of crime of treason against God and the Prince. Nay they have taken a foundation strong enough hereout, to build and erect a civill warre in these Provinces thereupon, and so to subdue them anew againe, and to exercise crueltie and tyranny against them, as over a conquered people and nation. A common practise of such, that go about to suppress, roote out and exterminate all those to whom they iudge and thinke to bee able to oppose themselves against their barbarous crueltie and tyranny. And thus finally they have overcharged the third Estate, the commonaltie and people with such intollerable contributions, tallages and exactions, as the like was never heard before, to provide and furnish the meanes required to the establishment of their absolute puissance and domination.

Germanie can shew many bloudie examples and instances, the remembrance of some whereof are yet fresh, of the intention and pretence of this Turkish and barbarous universall Monarchie. To this effect tended the unlawfull incorporation of divers Provinces and chiefe Cities of the lowe countries belonging to the Empire. The blood of so many Lordes and noble men, knightes, gentlemen, and other of the common sort till many millions. The horrible massacres and bucheries of innumerable innocents in India and Granada. The absolute government usurped in Naples, Spain, and in sundry places of Italic. The unist & tyrannicall surprisling of Portugall, the expulsion of the king Don Antonio their cousin german: the damnable resolution with a woful execution of the swallowing up of England and Ireland. The invading, usurping, and detaining of divers places and Cities of the Empire: the practises in Scotland, the secret intelligences and privie correspondences in the courts of most part of the Princes, Finally the distresses at this instant to

manifest against the Realme of France, and the lawfull beire thereof.

It is most certaine and true that wages are made daily vpon the Crowne of France and him that shal haue it. And the said States generall can in no wise beleue that this is done because the French king hath no right claime or title vnto it, which many Princes and common weales in league with them, and also of the Romish religion (who saue otherwise in nothing else this new pretended vniuersall and absolute dominion and gouernment) would not maintaine, nay not so much as once auerre it. But the truth is, that the said new pretended absolute Spanish gouernment, should be greatly hindered and interrested, and mozeouer farre overshoot in account, if such a kingdom as France is, should remaine in his ancient and hereditarie lawes, rightes and customes.

And therefore it is permitted to the subiects of France to oppose themselves against their lawfull and naturall king, and to ayde and assist these varlets and Spanish Marrannos, not for to liue afterward at libertie, & to enioy freely and peaceably that which God and nature hath geuen them quietly for to possesse, but to force their king to forsake his religiō (wherin from his youth he hath bene brought vp and instructed) with the losse of his crowne, to the ende that they might bee abioyned and vnted vnto this Turkish and barbarous gouernment.

This is a strange thing before it was Crimen læsæ Maiestatis & rebellionis, a crime of treason and rebellie, on, that subiects should haue by request entreated their Soueraines, Dukes, Earles or Lordes with all reuerence and due obedience to grant or permit vnto them gratis or for money to enioy free libertie of conscience. And now the French king his subiects haue not onely libertie and permission thereunto, but are yet exhorted nay constrained to lay hands vpon the Crowne of their king, if he wil not altogether addict himselfe to the religion of the one part of his subiects.

Behold the great priuileges of this Turkish Christianity in doing (when it seemeth good vnto them) all that other befoze haue iudged and censured to deserue extreame punishment and tozment. To the end that they being thus without any law, might vse an absolute power and iurisdiction to rule aboue the lawes, nay the consciences goods and liues of the poore Commonaltie to their full pleasure and appetite: And seduce by such painted shooes, deceitfull gloses and practises the simple people, abusing of their ignorance, to induce and prouoke them to rise and oppose themselves against their lawfull king (against whom they are not able to alledge any occasion of offence how small soeuer) and so by these meanes to make themselves absolute maisters of the surnamed kingdome.

And therefore the vniited Prouinces are no more to be blamed, in that they haue attempted and vnderaken (fozseeing the pretence of this vniuersall pretended Empire and Monarchie, not beholding themselves onely as in a looking glasse in the examples of their vspeakeable tyzanie, crueltie and massacres exercised vpon the poore Indians, Granada, and other nations: but also vpon the chiefeft Beares, gentlemen, and many thousands of other of these Prouinces) that, which to euery nation, nay to married wives and childzen themselves, and to all vassales and subjects is by law permitted to do the like, against their owne husbands, fathers and soueraines. And no reason it is, that foz this cause they should be holden and reputed foz disturbers of the publicke peace, or foz such that will enterprize thinges repugnant and contrarie to their othe, promise and ordonances of the sacred Empire.

The States generall are yet mindfull of their promise, which with all care and stedfastnes they haue kept and perfozmed: as also they hope to continue therein hereafter. Wishing (as partly belonging to the sacred Empire, of the which they are glad to be esteemed and acknowledged such to be) that by the meanes of the said sacred Empire, as members of one body, they might obtaine

Some aide, assistance, and defence against these extreme violences, cruelties, assaults and inuasions.

For the which they haue already oftentimes most humbly and instantly sued as well by forme of request and supplication, as by Ambassadors and commissioners, as yet at this present they cease not to do it: to the end that (according to the ordinances and statutes of the sacred Empire) all Spanish forces, barlets, and other outlandish and foraine soldiours might be driuen out of these Provinces and dominion of the sacred Empire, that by these meanes high and lowe Germanie might one daie in perfect vnitie and amitie traffique, frequent and enioy a free entercourse of dealing one with an other.

And if this request cannot be granted vnto them (whereof notwithstanding they wil not seeme once to doubt) they desire their Excellences Electoralis with the other Princes, Lords and Estates of the Empire to interpret and consider their actions, in this difficult and troublesome war to the best, that thereby the might moze easily and with greater courage support and endure the fatal traualles of their necessary defence. And to empech and hinder moze and moze (as they haue begon already) that these countries with all their meanes and commodities (which truly should not be small) serue not at last as sedes & Media bellis, to the distruction and totall ruine of all their neighbours, and aduancement of this pretended vniuersall and Turkish absolute Monarchie.

The said States generall hauing bene inforced by vrging necessitie to arme themselves against the common enemie: haue kept themselves alwaies in terminis defensionis, in the bandes and limits of their defence, to preserve and keepe that, which was theirs, and to reconer that againe which by force, practise and sinister meanes was taken from the in these Provinces: without to haue euer desired, and in any wise would yet desire to incorporate the towines and holdes of their neighbors.

And therefore they cannot well vnderstand what it means

meanes that they are demaied by law to deliver or make restitution of any places that should be incorpored by them.

For although they vnderstand privately that it is thought, that the house of Sgrauenwert lyeth in the territories of their neighbors, yet they are certainly informed, that the said house is situated in the countrey of the Duke of Gelders. Where it hath bene made before by generall Schenk to the great charges and expences of these united Provinces. After the decease of whom, the saide fort partly by the cruelties practises, and partly by the negligence of the garnison therein, was brought into such an extremity, that y^e States (to prevent the enemy from having it) were forced to furnish an other great some of money, to y^e sure garde and defence of the same.

It is also to be considered that the said fort is builded and entertained in that place not to hinder any man, but by an urgent and extreme necessity, to hinder and prevent by it, that the great violences of the enemy make no further invasion into those quarters of their countrey.

And it is a thing expressly permitted and enacted by the imperiall lawes in the like case to erect such a fort in vicino. And therefore with more reason it is lawfull, and permitted to keepe and maintaine it, during the time of necessity.

In the meane while the said States generall giue their Excellences Electors, the other Princes, Lordes and Estates of the sacred Empire to vnderstand, that to avoid all occasion of strife, controuersie, and contention, concerning that schonsse, they desire nothing else then to proceede therein by all lawfull and reasonable meanes, to the ende that their Excellences Electors with the other Princes and Estates may receiue a full and sufficient contentment by it.

And by these presentes they would haue set downe and propounded certaine waies to bring this to an effect, if the States of Gelderland (who particularly and soyma-

ty claime to haue right to the ground of the saide scone, and benig the neereſt neighbors vnto it, are by it in greater ſafety and ſecurity) had ſent their deputies with full commiſſion (as touching theſe affaires) to this aſſembly. But becauſe they are not as yet arriued, and that your Lordſhips cannot ſtay here any longer: the ſaid States generall will referre and remitte it to their comming (which as they hope will be very ſhortly) and then will conſider moze effectually vpon it, and make ſuch a declaration, as they thinke will ſerue to their Excellences Electorals full contentment, with the other Princes, Lords and States of the ſacred Empire.

On the other ſide, there are not onely in the Duke, dome of Cleue, and that vpon the ground of the Princes Electors, and other Princes, made Bulwokes, Fortreſſes, and Rampires, but alſo many great towneſ and cities ſurpriſed and detained, not for any neceſſarie defence to themſelues, but onely to endommage and ſpoyle there, with the neighbours, and to extende the limites of their ſaid abſolute Turkiſh dominion and gouernment: as it appeareth moſt manifeſtly now of late by certaine letters of theirs intercepted and decyphered. And therefore their Excellences Electorals with the other Prince, Lordes, and States of the ſacred Empire, haue great reaſon to haue ſpeciall care vnto their affaires, and diligently to conſider wherefoze all the Biſhopps thereabout appertaining to the Empire, partye by force, and partye by practice, and ſecret pollicies, are put into the handes of the Spaniſh creatures, and ſuch, after they haue gotten ſit time and oppoꝛtunitie to recompence the great benefites receiued of their Creator, will deliuer vnto him the ſecular gouernment: as in Biſhopps of our time the like hath bene ſene come to paſſe in reſpect of ſuch Creatures, and Creator.

Howeouer it appeareth if their intention bee to make a reſtitution of the ſaid towneſ and places kept by them, in that now of late they were yet fully purpoſed to ſurpriſe
two

two other towne, namely Goch and Reesh: Which the States generall doubt not but to be knowne of all men. And it is not once to be called in question, that the newe Fortresses which are now in building in the Bishopricke of Colen, were not begon with a purpose and intent to profit and further that side.

And farre it is that the States haue bene the first, that haue attempted any thing vpon the holdes, towne and places situated in the Countries of their neighbors. For as yet they cannot call to minde, that by them or by their commandement any such place or towne hath bene surpris'd or taken. And if perhaps at one time or another (for necessities sake and without their commission) such a thing is happened, the places were immediately deliuered and abandoned againe as it was meet, by the said States or ordinance and appointment, without entermedling or taking any knowledgement of that which happened in the Bishopricke of Colen. For it is knowne to most men by what commission and charges the said affaires were managed and conducted. True it is in dede that the soldiers that were in seruice of these prouinces assisted the Prince Elector Turckes, his generals and captaines, in certaine exploits done in the said Bishopricke: but this happened not, but after that his aduersarie had not onely called openly vnto his aide the Spanish garrisons into the sayde Bishopricke, but had already taken and surpris'd certain towne and places wherunto it was most necessarie to haue a speciall care and regard.

Now lately also it is come to passe that the garrisons of these prouinces haue taken the fort of Luttekenhouen, because the common enimie made too great a commodity of it, being it very fittly to put in effect his purpose for the invading of Freeseland. They also haue surpris'd vpon the common enemy and his garrisons the scone lying before Buricke, which the said enemy had made, provided, and furnished with men, shot, poudre, and other munition of warre, as well by water as by land, to endamage by

in these Pröuinces: and haue also surprisid vpon the same enimie the towne and castle of Burick. And although the said States (aswell for the commoditie which the saide enimie reaped by the said places, as also because manye yeares since hee had furnished the said holde or schonse, towne and castle, with all necessarie munition of warre to the great hinderance of these Pröuinces as well by water as by land) are to be accounted and esteemed to haue bene taken not from their neighbours, but from the common enimy of their countrie. Yet notwithstanding to shew that they wish and desire truely and without all dissimulation to pleasure their Excellences Electoralles, the Pröinces, Lordes and the rest of the State of the sacred Empire, and by no meanes seeme to vsurpe any thing vpon their Dominions, they are contented to abandon the said places out of hand, and presently cause ordinances hereunto required to be dispatched, that no occasion of excuse or delay be left or geuen vnto the enemies hereby, not to make restitution also presently of all thoe places vsurped by them.

And if peradventure the companies that are in paye of the States in their necessarie passage and pursute of the enimy, haue endommaged the countries of our neighbors, it hath bene alwaies with grieue and against the will of the said States generall, who neuer would haue the chiefe maliactors left unpunished, if they had had no due consideration that necessity forced them hereunto, as their vse hath bene alwaies to obserue in entertaining of their forces, not vpon the expenies of their neighbors, but vpon the cost and charges of these Pröuinces, to their vitermost power and abilitie.

Where to the contrarie on the other side we haue seene oftentimes whole regiments of Infanterie, and sundrie troupes of hozles to haue bene maintained whole moneths and yeares vpon the contributions and countries of our neighbors, as it is yt to be seene this present daye, onelie thereby to molest and trouble vs, and endommage these
Pröuinces

Provinces, to the ende that by such like oppressions, spoiling and waisting of the countrie, and the inhabitants thereof, they might the more easie come to their ambitious purpose and pretence, the onely marke whereof is the said vniuersall and absolute Monarchie.

And that this is true, it may bee gathered partlie by this, in that the common enemy getteth but slender payes or rather none at all to the regiments and companies that are appointed to lye and haue their garrison in the countries of our neighbours. Whereas to the contrarie, the said States generall, to keepe a good order and discipline, and to put the better in execution their Statutes, ordinances, and resolutions against the disorders and ill behauiours of those soldiours that are in their paye, and moreover to ease their neighbors of their outrages and riots, make from time to time such a reasonable payment (after their uttermost power and abilitie) vnto them, that it might be well called in doubt, if in so long-during and troublesome a warre, the mightiest and greatest Potentates of Europe haue euer done more, nay boldly dare say the like.

True it is that the said States generall to their infinite charge and expenses entertaine shippes of warre, that anker as well in the sea as in riuers, and common passages. But this is not to any mans hinderance or prejudice, but rather for the necessarie defence and safegard of the Mariners, and Marchants against the Piracies, robberies, and violences of the common enemy, who likewise keepeth sundry shippes and men of warre vpon the sea, riuers, and passages, but to an intent onely to robbe and vnder passengers.

And the said States haue farre greater occasion to vse such a defence, then other haue, because it greatly concerneth the importance of these Provinces, and the inhabitants thereof. Although the subjects of the sacred Empire reape in the meane while, as much profite and commoditie by the said ships (being duely payde and so kept in good

order and discipline) as the inhabitants of these Provinces themselves.

And because the sea and rivers are iuris publici, & common by law, and that it is permitted to every man to keepe them, and cast anchor in them without the hinderance or offence of any bodie, this deepe of the said States is not to be misliked or to be found fault withal, and chiefly because that thereby they haue onely sought to let and prevent the iniuries and inuasions of the enemy.

Touching that the said States generall (to lighten and ease their great charges which they sustaine in cleansing the sea and rivers from Pirats and piracie) haue bene forced to impose vpon the wares brought and carried out of the countries, money of conuoy and licence: it hath bene agreed vpon to their great grieve, for no man receiveth thereby greater interest and hinderance, then these Provinces themselves, and the inhabitants thereof. And if it were not that extreme necessity did force them hereunto, the said States generall would not once haue thought to do such a thing, seeing that the welfare of this countrie & Provinces consisteth in free trafficking: which by such & such like charges and tallages is greatly hindered. Added also that the inhabitants themselves of these Provinces sustaine and carry the burden of these tributes and subsidies, as much as any other nation. And also the saide statute and ordinance of licences and conuoye is not kept and obserued but onely in the portes, hauens, & common passages of these countries, with all order and reasonable discretion.

In the meane whilet he said States generall vnderstand not to what end this their deepe is misconstrued, misliked, and ill taken, seeing that diuers Princes & common weales enioying a full peace and quiet rest, and without any euident token of necessity, ouercharging them thereunto, cause the like tallages & tributes to bee payde vnto them.

Yet their Excellences Electorals, the other Princes
Lords

Lozdes and States of the sacred Empire may assure themselves, that (if affaires of these Prouinces being brought once to a happie and desired issue, and therewith all occasions of this vrgent necessity remoued & quite taken away) the said charges, tallages and tributs will come to cease by themselves. But if in the meane while some extorsions or exactions by land or by water be done by the soldours, me of war and other being in the pay and seruice of the saide States, such punishment, vpon complaint, shall bee done of them, as the enormity of the fact shall require & demand.

How much the said States generall are repugnant & contrarie to these extorsions, how greatly they are grieved and displeased that the poore trauelers should against all law and right be robbed and spoiled of their goods, the good order, which nowe of late, after the disease of generall Shenck, is set downe by them in the ichonse of Sgrauen VVeert, doth sufficiently witnes and shew: wherby they haue taken away all tributes and imposts that were imposed there, without the aduise & commissiō of the States generall, as by effect it is knowne to all the world.

Howeouer if any of these soldours and men of war that are in seruice of the States and leued by their commissiō, shall be convicted to haue kilde and robbed any man, to haue cast fire into some houses, vsed violence or committed such like crimes: the said States generall will not faile to punish such for an example to all others, as it is required. And will by no meanes hinder, that the like execution be not done by the magistrates of their neighbors (so that it be without partiality) vnto whom they commend aboue the rest the good correspondēce which ought to be betwēen neighbors and frendes.

And this it is that the States generall of the vniited Prouinces of the low countries (being thereunto in god intention and amitie required by the Ambassadors of the Princes Electors, Princes, Lozdes & States of the sacred Empire) haue to answer. Desiring yet once againe the high and renowned Princes Electors, other Princes,

Lor-des and States that it may please them alwaies fa-
uorably to assist and aide the said vnited Prouinces of the
low countries, that serue the at this present for rampires
and bulwokes, against the aboue mentioned generall
necessity imminentis periculi.

Desire also the said Lor-des Ambassadors to do a faith-
full report of this their answer to the high, most reuered
and renowned Princes Electors, the other Princes,
Lor-des and States, hoping that the almightie (whose
strong and puissant arme hath till this time most miracu-
lously kept and preserved these countries, with the fauo-
rable assistance of their frendes and confederates, neigh-
bors and allies) will giue a happie and prosperous issue
vnto the laamentable affaires of this common wealth.

Finallye whereas the most honorable Countesse of
Newnar &c. widdow of the most noble Earle Adolf,
Count of Newnar, Moeurs &c. complaineth that, a-
gainst the ordinances, statutes and priuileges of the sa-
cred Empire, diuers lordships, signenries and possessions
appertaining vnto her, and situated in the dominion of
the Empire, and in the protection thereof, as as wrongfull-
fully taken from her, as vniustly detained till this present
day: the said States generall desire their Excellences E-
lectors, the other Princes, Lor-des & States, that by their
authoritie, order may be geuen, for the restitution of the
said goods and possessions, that the said Lady in her sorow-
full and wofull estate, remaine not against all lawes of
humanitie afflicted and greued any longer thereby. Done
in the Hage this 23. of Septembre 1590.

Vnder stood written by the States gene-
rall. Signed, C. Aerfons,

The true Copie of the answere of the States generall, the 29.
of Septembre. 1590. vnto the proposition done vnto them the
23. of August last, by the Deputies of the right honorable
Burgmaisters, and the rest of the Senate of the city of Colen.

The States generall of the vnited Prouinces of the
low

low Countries, after that they had heard and sene that which the right worshipfull Nicolas Linck secretarie and deputie of the right honorable Burgmaisters, and the Counsell of the imperiall and free citie of Colen, the 23. of August last hath propounded vnto them, as well by word of mouth, as by writing in their assembly, according to the authoritie geuen vnto him by their letters of commission: First thanke most effectuously the saide Burgmaisters and those of the Senate of the imperiall citie of Colen for their good will towards them, & declare that their intention hath bene alwaies, and is yet at this present to keepe and cause to be kept with the said Burgmaisters and those of the said Senate, as also with the inhabitants of citizens of the surnamed imperiall and free citie of Colen all amity, frendship, and good neighborhod. And the said Senates may assure themselves that by the meanes and consent of the States generall, the good burgeses and inhabitants of the said imperiall and free citie of Colen, were neuer yet taken prisoners, manacled, chained, or in any wise misused by them: without that the said States will meddle in any sort with that, that vpon the occasion of y^e war of Colen might haue happened, seeing that it is sufficiently knowne by what commandement and commission this warre hath bene conducted. In so much that the said States generall releye their trust so farre vpon the Burgmaisters and the rest of the Senate of the imperiall and free citie of Colen, that on their side also they are of intention and meaning to cause all frendship and amitie to be kept with all the vniued Provinces in generall, and with every one of them in particular, and with the inhabitants and pertainers thereunto. And that they shall not meddle in any sort whatsoeuer with the affaires of this warre, or with any thing dependant thereunto, nor shall undertake any thing against these Provinces, or that might bee prejudiciall to the inhabitants thereof or their goods. Likewise also their honors may be assured that of these countries side it shall neuer be permitted that the

good citizens and inhabitants of the Imperiall and free citie of Colen by land or water shall in any sort be endommed, hindered, or interessed in their traffique, negotiatio, bodie or goods. But that in all thinges and all places they shall be receined and vled as good frendes and neighbours by these Countries. And to that effect netwe commande ment and order shall be geuen to the garrisons of the frontier townes and other places of defence thereabouts.

As concerning that which toucheth the affaires of Iohn Baptist Leopert bozne in Isburgh, in the countrie of Tiroll, the said States generall haue geuen order that the said person (if he can be found in these countries) shall be cited and called to compaire in person, and to giue a good account of his actions and doings, vpon paine of deserved punishmeent.

As concerning the affaires of the right honorable Loyd of Puelics, mentioned in the former proposition, the saide States generall haue caused to be said vnto him by those of the Counsell of Estate, and mozeouer they themselues haue declared vnto him, that they are not contented that he should go forward in his purpose against the said Imperiall and free citie of Colen, but by lawfull waies of right and iustice. As also they assure the said Burgmaisters and whole Senate that the said Puelics in the difference which he hath with them, will bee willing to come to reasonable conditions and composition.

And to that ende the States will vse by their deputies and commissioners, all diligence that may be, to shew in all thinges vnto the said Burgmaisters and counsell of the said citie of Colen, the good will which they beare, and the desire which they haue to keepe good neighborhood with them, to the end that the generall contractions, and intercourse of traffique betwene them may continue.

Finally, whereas the most honorable Lady Wulburg, Countesse of Newmar, Moeurs, Lymbourg &c. sheweth that the deceased Loyd Adolf, Earle of Newmar, Moeurs, Lymbourg &c. to quite something his losses and domma-
ges,

ges which he hath sustained in his goods (which by confiscation haue beene taken away from him) had receiued of the States thre thousand Dollers of certain rents which the Canony of S. Andrew in Colen was to receiue of the said States. And that for this cause a Burgesse of Amersford was now arrested and detained in Colen, (although it is not permitted to any imperiall citie to proceed by arrest in matters which happen by these warres) and that now the said States of Vtricht, aduersethemselues to the said countesse to cause the arrested to be released, seeing that the customes of the towne of Tiel appertaine to the said Ladie, and are engaged for that cause: And also that she woulde not willingly proceede by contrarrest, whereby she should be forced to molest some of Colen.

This considered the States generall, at the request of the said Countesse (who in her woofull estate deserveth all fauour) desire that the said arrest may be cancelled, and the Burgesse of Amersford released. And therefore the rather that the Bishop and Canony of Colen do vnto the said Lady great wrong in detaining her goods away from her, without any restitution of that which after the decease of the Earle her husband is due vnto her, amounting vnto more then thre thousand Dollers. Thus resolved and agræde vpon in the assembly of the said States generall. At the Hage the 29. of Septembre. 1590.

Vnder written as before.

The answere of the States generall vnto the proposition of the Deputies of the Prince and States of Liege.

Those of the Counsell of Estate of the united Princes of the low Countries hauing more thoroughly regarded that which hath bene declared vnto them by the Deputies of the Prince and Estate of Liege, and conside-

good citizens and inhabitants of the imperiall and free citie of Colen by land or water shall in any sort be endommed, hindered, or interessed in their traffique, negotiatio, bodie or goods. But that in all thinges and all places they shall be receiued and vsed as good frendes and neighbours by these Countries. And to that effect newe commande ment and order shall be geuen to the garrisons of the frontier townes and other places of defence thereabouts.

As concerning that which toucheth the affaires of Iohn Baptist Leopert bozne in Isburgh, in the countrie of Tiroll, the said States generall haue geuen order that the said person (if he can be found in these countries) shall be cited and called to compare in person, and to giue a good account of his actions and writings, vpon paine of deserved punishment.

As concerning the affaires of the right honorable Lord of Putlics, mentioned in the former proposition, the saide States generall haue caused to be said vnto him by those of the Counsell of Estate, and mozeouer they themselves haue declared vnto him, that they are not contented that he should go forward in his purpose against the said imperiall and free citie of Colen, but by lawfull waies of right and iustice. As also they assure the said Burgmaisters and whole Senate that the said Putlics in the difference which he hath with them, will bee willing to come to reasonable conditions and composition.

And to that ende the States will vse by their deputies and commissioners, all diligence that may be, to shew in all thinges vnto the said Burgmaisters and counsell of the said citie of Colen, the good will which they beare, and the desire which they haue to keepe good neighborhood with them, to the end that the generall contractions, and intercourse of traffique betwene them may continue.

Finally, whereas the most honorable Lady Vvalburg, Countesse of Newnar, Moeurs, Lymbourg &c. sheweth that the deceased Lord Adolf, Earle of Newnar, Moeurs, Lymbourg &c. to quite something his losses and domma-
ges,

ges which he hath sustained in his goodes (which by confiscation haue bene taken away from him) had receiued of the States thre thousand Dollers of certain rents which the Canony of S. Andrew in Colen was to receiue of the said States. And that for this cause a Burgesse of Amersford was now arrested and detained in Colen, (although it is not permitted to any imperiall citie to proceed by arrest in matters which happen by these warres) and that now the said States of Vtricht, addresse themselves to the said countesse to cause the arrested to be released, seeing that the customes of the tolls of Tiel appertaine to the said Ladie, and are engaged for that cause: And also that she would not willingly proceede by contrarrest, whereby she should be forced to molest some of Colen.

This considered the States generall, at the request of the said Countesse (who in her wooll estate deserveth all fauour) desire that the said arrest may be cancelled, and the Burgesse of Amersford released. And therefore the rather that the Bishop and Canony of Colen do vnto the said Lady great wrong in detaining her goods away from her, without any restitution of that which after the decease of the Earle her husband is due vnto her, amounting vnto more then thre thousand Dollers. Thus resolved and agreed vpon in the assembly of the said States generall. At the Hage the 29. of Septembꝛe. 1590.

Vnder written as before.

The answer of the States generall vnto the proposition of the Deputies of the Prince and States of Liege.

Those of the Counsell of Estate of the united Princes of the loyn Countries hauing more thoroughly regarded that which hath bene declared vnto them by the Deputies of the Prince and Estate of Liege, and conside-

ring that they make some difficultie in not to aide or assist the Spaniards and their adherents (whose enimies not onely to these Provinces, but also of our neighbours: haue a iust occasion greatly to doubt and suspect of some secret intelligence, and that the said Prince of Liege (as the common report goeth yet, and hath done long since) bee in league with the king of Spaine, considering also the deeds of hostilitie and the vsurping of places and goods appertaining vnto the inhabitants & subiects of these vnited Provinces, and others fauoring these states side. Also in that they haue intermedled themselves with the wars of Colen, by confiscatio or saisement, and this after y^e the accord was concluded with the Ambassadors of the sacred Empire, vpon the rendring of the places and goods appertaining to the Princes and subiects of the said Empire. In so much that to accomodate and maintaine the soldiours of the said Leaguers, the countrie of Liege hath bene scene continually eaten and spoyled, seing that in the said countrie are leuied and entertained whole regiments for those of the League, and this vpon the charge of the poore Farmers and Peasants. Moreover it is said that the villages of the campagne ground of Liege giue contribution to the payment of the soldiours that are in seruice of the saide Leaguers. And that in the said countrie they procede against those of the reformed religion, not onely with extreme seuerity and rigor, conformance to the inquisition of Spaine, but also against the soldiours of these Provinces with all crueltie, and without forme or figure of iustice. Whereas to the contrarie, the enimies soldiours escape not onely unpunished for their violences, and other offences done by them, but are yet supported & fauored. Whereas although we haue bene alwaies inclined (as yet we are) to keepe a good correspondence neyghbored & friendship with the said countrie & subiects of Liege, and defend them from all hurtes and damages, according to our power and ability.

Yet notwithstanding for the reasons aboue mentioned,
and

and for respect of certaine contracts made betwene the said States generall, and some great Princes and Potentates concerning the affaires and direction of warre, those of the counsell of Estate cannot speedily and at this present resolue themselves absolutely upon the remonstrations done vnto them by the said Deputies, but will informe themselves better of all matters, and finding that on the other side, they are in good earnest requested and desired to keepe a good amitie and neighborhood with these vnitied Provinces, then they will make a sufficient declaration & demonstration, with the aduise and consent of those to whom it shall appertaine, that the States and subiects of the said countrie of Liege, shall perceiue and vnderstand that the fault shall not be on this side in not keeping with them a good and sincere amity and neighborhood. And to shew it by effect, they of the Counsell of Estate shall gene order that those prisoners in Breda & in other places shall be released. Done in the Hage the 13. of October. 1590.

